Member 2 Speaks Out: Caleb Maupin Isn't My Story

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this article are solely my own thoughts and opinions. They are not necessarily representative of the views of every single person who signed onto the Medium article "Caleb Maupin's Former Comrades Speak Out, His Abuses Must Stop!"

"Women hold up half the sky" - Mao Zedong

In Haitian Voudou, names are incredibly powerful things. A person's name can be used in black magic rituals against them, or it can be used to summon their spirit after they've died. In the realm of online politics, your name is the only thing anyone needs to know to be able to spend a few seconds searching to find your entire background, your job, your family, your address. Obviously, it goes without saying that any member of the working-class who tells the truth about the wealthy and powerful will be persecuted, ridiculed, and doxxed on the internet, which is why I'm continuing to keep my name anonymous in this letter, the same way I was anonymous in the Medium article. But for now you can call me Member 2, otherwise known as the genuine working-class person at the center of the controversy surrounding Caleb's abuses and how they negatively affect the working-class. I'm writing this to let it be known, in no uncertain terms, that I do not think Caleb Maupin should lead any political organization, which is why I signed onto the original Medium document. In fact, I will go even further and say this: people like Caleb Maupin, InfraRed, Vaush, Thought Slime, and other participants in the Right Wing Populist Communism vs. Breadtube debate are exactly what's wrong with communist organizations in this day and age. One of the best things I've ever done was tell the world the truth about Caleb Maupin so the InfraLeft could eat itself, and I hope this document has a similar effect on the cancer of Debate Bro Communism in our marginalized communities.

Why would any self-respecting trans man publish an account of his intimate dealings with a married, respected YouTube commentator in an Internet Age where communists are getting deplatformed over anything, let alone judged for their sexual orientation and preferences? Dear reader, I had the exact same questions you do now when I first published that article. I put my face and reputation next to an unpopular truth as the only Black member of the John Brown Volunteers, as the person who designed that signature blue JBV shirt, after spending years reading excerpts of his books on his channel and dedicating my adult life to the Center for Political Innovation. I wouldn't sacrifice my life's work for no reason, unlike certain grifters like Caleb who posture themselves as members of the working-class from their polished, housekept apartments in gentrified Brooklyn majority-police resident neighborhoods. However, despite the massive sacrifice and risk, I published my written account of Caleb's

transgressions against me because I genuinely believe communism is supposed to be for the benefit of the working-class. I am the proud son of a woman who escaped Haiti as a political refugee, and my communism was inspired by my desire for Black Liberation. How could I truly convince myself I was working for Caleb Maupin to benefit the working-class when as a member of the working-class myself, I was being discarded and treated like dirt? My sense of self-esteem and Caribbean background taught me that I should counter any personal or political struggle with sincere, honest work - so if I needed to sleep with older men I had no interest in to pay the rent on the JBV hotel because we weren't making enough canvassing, or politely, quietly accept Caleb's proposition to become his sex worker after he discarded the only Black member of the JBV and lied about me, my first instinct was to just go along with it without complaint. My reaction should be immediately understood by any other working-class person who's done something they didn't want to do because their boss asked them to, or because they had to pay rent. We cannot pretend to defend workers while exploiting them in the same ways the capitalists do, and we certainly cannot fight for Black Liberation while deliberately taking advantage of Black people's tenuous material conditions.

I don't care who you are or what you've accomplished, you should not ever be allowed to participate in communist community organizing if you can't treat the proletariat with dignity and respect, which is why Caleb Maupin's treatment of working-class members of CPI in his personal life is exactly what's at stake in this discussion. You can have all of the ideologically correct positions, but let us not forget that, as the honorable comrade Chairman Mao so eloquently put it, "To be among the masses and [...] be indifferent to them and show no concern for their well-being, forgetting that one is a Communist and behaving as if one were an ordinary non-Communist" is the exact kind of liberal hypocrisy Maupin rightfully criticizes in the Synthetic Left. I therefore feel it is a socialist's obligation to come forward and make it known that Caleb Maupin does not represent us, nor do his behaviors represent communism. For those saying I should've kept my mouth shut because I helped discredit our movement (as if Caleb's behavior hadn't really done it), reread Combat Liberalism or read Courtney Desiree Morris's article, "Why Misogynists Make Great Informants: How Gender Violence on the Left Enables State Violence in Radical Movements". I direct you towards either of these works because they explain better than I can the reality that the biggest threat to 21st Century Communism is the misogynistic Baizuo RadLib Western White tendency that we allow to fester because capitalism rewards those who do its bidding. Being someone like Caleb, a man who rests his laurels on the sweat of his comrades because he can get people to listen to him in ways they'll never listen to the activists he victimized, is to betray the entire movement and those underneath you in it who do your work, all so you can live more comfortably while you convince yourself you're helping demolish capitalism. Can you abolish capitalism while pursuing wealth and capital by throwing your comrades into the machine and selling their ground-up souls? We reasonable, principled communists should already know the

answer to this, but apparently the Debate Bro YouTube Contingency of “Communist” Trolls does not.

I've noticed a few common sentiments being expressed by unaffected commentators like Vaush and InfraRed’s Haz about my life from outside of it: that Caleb and I are both "grown adults" who agreed to a consensual act; that Caleb's personal life has no bearing on his politics; that I should've known this would be used to discredit anti-imperialists, so I shouldn't have made this public; that I'm somehow working with sinister forces to take Caleb down or taking some kind of plea deal with feds. As usual, in politics, it's important to pay attention to *who* is saying as much as *what* they're saying, because then you'll learn what their intentions truly are. In this case, I've noticed how many of the people saying these things have never experienced economic desperation. Furthermore, they're paid to disseminate online drama and convince their patrons that the "real" working-class is too stupid to understand economic marginalization that happens to anyone who isn't a white man. They're approaching this situation through a lens of elitist, disinterested pity; they don't really care how many proletariat lives are endangered by demagogues who advocate for themselves, because they are those demagogues. I mean, Caleb literally paid me to make him ejaculate, and he still didn't see me as human enough to have worked this out with me beforehand so CPI's “executive committee” - which he controlled - could've handled it instead. This is because he never created an internal mechanism within CPI to even confront his own misconduct. Even now, after all of his misdeeds have been made public, he is still the leader of the organization, despite the consequences any regular working-class man would’ve faced having done what he did. He even falsely states in his “apology” video, “Time to Finally Talk About What Happened”, that I kept pleading with my comrades when writing our article, “Why don’t we all just go talk to Caleb?” At this point, I’m sure you can understand that I was beyond words with him - and, quite frankly, had already been months before the article was written. Yet, my indictment of his cruel, ineffectual leadership is separate from my larger issues with him as a man. He also stated that he "got wrapped up" in hiring me to spank him after I left CPI, which is false. He told other CPI comrades that I was still part of the group, despite him telling me otherwise directly. I never left CPI of my own volition, he just removed me from more and more group functions as time went on. The fact that he isolated me from the rest of my CPI comrades and waited until I was living with my fiancee again to solicit me doesn't change the fact that he objectified me, and before that, deliberately lied to our comrades about me, including even my drug use! My brief relapse during the fall of 2021 was well-documented in my previous statement, and Caleb himself admitted that he was fully aware that my relapse was contained to that fall because he waited until I was completely off of drugs to become sexually involved with me (which, credit where credit is due, at least he had the decency to make sure he wasn't manipulating my consent while I was under the influence, just while I was fully awake). So then why was he telling Nick (Flame of Liberation) that I was on drugs while we were in California in August

2021 for a conference, and then got defensive and angry when Nick contrasted that with eyewitness reports of me fully sober from Justin Simons (a member of the CPI Executive Committee)? The answer is simple: Caleb already knew from the moment I started doing sex work that he wanted to hire me, so he waited until he had thoroughly separated me from the rest of the group to solicit me at a dinner he bought me because I was financially struggling. I am a grown man, and I was fully sober, but I was also paying off $80,000 worth of student debt without a degree to show for it and living in poverty with my fiancee in her studio. Caleb was making six figures, was the most influential communist I personally knew well, and had spent his entire career decrying the Synthetic Left and IDpol and LGBTQ criticisms of communist organizations. To even raise the issue was to become an "angry Black woman" in the eyes of those in the organization who didn't understand the fact that I am trans and have been on testosterone for years. Again, only the working-class will truly understand: sometimes you have to swallow someone else's pride to eat, and communism is meant to take it out of your mouth, not force you to whole-heartedly swallow boot leather. The snobby, elitist InfraStreamers and Vaushcell fanboys can question my decisions when they have to deal with my problems, and since I doubt they ever will, they should stick to what they're good at: farting their opinions onto the internet and earning thousands on their asses while the rest of us work to eat.

For people like Caleb, his politics are a mere reflection of his personal views. He thought he'd get away with exploiting impoverished members of the NYC community he claimed to care about because he legitimately doesn't see us as having the same worth as human beings that he does. He just uses quotes from Black and Latin American revolutionaries to cover up his rampant self-interest, while actively treating the Black revolutionaries in his life like maggots. As a perfect example, in his return video, he claims I moved into the John Brown Volunteers house because he "rescued me" from an abusive relationship. In reality, I did start staying there after an argument with my fiancee, but the text he showed on the screen while he says this literally says she wasn't abusive towards me; my argument with her was about whether or not I'd move out and stay with the JBVs in the first place. But he doesn't mind slandering me, or trying to write off my fiancee as an abuser, because my fiancee committed suicide in March after a lifetime of enduring transphobic violence. While she was still alive, Caleb actively pushed her out of CPI: not because she "was using drugs as well" (which he claimed in that video) - again, there's videos of her sober in the background of our events where I spoke. Caleb pushed my fiancee out of the Center for Political Innovation because she questioned his power too often and encouraged me not to tolerate his abusive behavior, and now that she's no longer alive, he's portraying her as an abuser because she's no longer around to defend herself. Not simply content with his mistreatment of her, he also attempted to link the date of the release of our Medium article with the assassination of Darya Dugina because her death occurred the day afterward, as if

somehow, we were connected to it. The ways in which Caleb used these women's deaths to cover up his mistreatment of me and his abuse of other women within the movement is typical, though. As is the way all of these political streamers treat women in general, which is deeply mirrored by the way they callously insult women in misogynistic terms, the way so many of them carelessly slander transgender people like myself when denouncing the neoliberal agenda to co-opt marginalized identities. These men do not act like comrades because they aren't comrades. They're petit bourgeois vampires who see themselves as fundamentally greater than the "lumpenproletariat" they've diagnosed as below them, thus more worthy of giving their blood.

In fact, Caleb cares so little about members of his own team, he can't even tell us apart! In his video about "what happened", he tried to deflect from admitting that he used my voice, writing, political activism, and my body for his own twisted gain by claiming that since he spent so much money on the John Brown Volunteers in Texas, I was actually leeching from him. What a spurious claim! It doesn't take long to debunk that claim with the basic reality that he never spent a dime on me going to Texas, because I never went. His ill-advised attempt to merge the JBV with San Angelo Solidarity had nothing to do with him soliciting me for sexual favors in New York at the same time. And because this apparently needs to be said, the issue isn't only the sexual misconduct, either. It was also the lying, continued dehumanization, and manipulating his comrades for his own gain. He even tried to assert in that very same video that I "seemed very reluctant to be involved" with the exposé by twisting my reasonable concern about my identity being compromised into a full-on condemnation of my own words. Despite Caleb's disingenuous claims, I am quite happy with my work on that Medium article, and the only "help" I had was from Nick, Don D. from NYC, Member 1, Charlotte, Joey, Dust James, and everyone else who signed onto the document, as well as all of the those who read our story and cared enough about the proletariat to stand against our oppression. Clearly Caleb and his enablers in the leadership of the Center for Political Innovation have very different aims, and it is my intention to bring to light what those motives are, along with the ulterior motives of every other person profiting off of our collective suffering, which is why I am also condemning the entire Leftist For-Profit YouTuber Infrastructure.

So, why did I start this article with a quote from Chairman Mao? Why do I keep mentioning being Black, and queer, and transgender? Why does any of it matter to communism, and why did the incorrect assumption that Member 2 is a woman change the way I was treated by online spectators? Am I announcing my new ideological shift away from the science of Marxism towards a neoliberal IDpol, Vaush-inspired Anarcho-Bidenism? I should hope at this point, you more properly understand why I have no use for the stupidity of neoliberal identity politics, and why I have aimed my ire at the vaunted streamers of our communist movement. Just because disingenuous,

hypocritical liberals appropriate our identities in service of capitalism doesn't mean we should fail to hold our comrades accountable when they do the exact same thing. I refuse to stand behind another man who uses my support as a way of reassuring other white men my identity group has no issue with him. Furthermore, the way we treat our women and other racial, gender and sexual minorities within the movement reflects how they'll be treated once our communist ideals are implemented. The way we treat the proletariat on the inside is exactly the way we'll treat them later on the outside when it's our turn to gain power. *Anyone who abuses the proletariat is an enemy of communism*.

Black people make up a large portion of the proletariat. Women are the lion's share of the proletariat. Trans, gay, and other queer people are members of our ranks in record numbers, at much higher percentages than straight and cisgender folks. Sex workers are almost entirely members of the proletariat, propelled into their work by the crises of capitalism. Therefore, by abandoning these groups of people, we're abandoning the real people who have the largest stake in every single debate. To us, this isn't a series of abstract political ideas, *this is our lives*. If you are doing this because it's an elaborate game to you, we'd rather you didn't do it at all. Don't claim to fight for us if you aren't willing to fight for all of us.

Now, I also want to be clear that what is *most* helpful to the working-class is cooperating with dedicated comrades to work towards implementing a socialist future. Belonging to a group where you listen to your community and advocate for the most pressing political changes affecting your neighbors will always be more important than silly ideological disputes and arrogant brow-beating - both of which are also much-dreaded forms of liberalism within a communist movement. With that said though, there's an excellent way to tell whether or not a member of your socialist organization is a knowledgeable and dedicated comrade, or a shameless grifter who will squander your resources for themselves: how do they treat people who are more marginalized by capitalism than they are? Anyone who advocates for mass incarceration, or increased medical gatekeeping, or the reduction of rights for women is already serving the capitalist state, regardless of whether or not they are on its payroll. We do not let comrades in who target a social group of working-class or lumpenproletariat they don't belong to for immutable characteristics already being exploited by capitalism. To do so would be to welcome the entire NATO imperialist state into our movement with open arms, since we're already doing their work of further marginalizing workers so they're too exhausted to fight for true communism, or too ideologically confused to tell when someone is telling the truth outwardly while living a lie. It is our duty to communism to root anyone out of our movement who is using it for their personal gain, lest we become a parody of our own values like Caleb Maupin is. Our hardworking, misunderstood, neglected numbers of the poorest workers deserve better than Caleb Maupin.